

REMARKS

Claims 21-25 and 30-32 are all the claims pending in the application. Claims 31 and 32 have been added.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102 and §103

Claims 21, 23, 25, and 30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly anticipated by JP 35700697A to Kimura ("JP '974"). Claims 22 and 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Kimura.

Claims 21-24

As an initial matter, independent claim 21 has been amended to recite that the claimed subject matter is a system comprising a printing device and a bag having a mark defining a transport direction to said printing device.

In the Advisory Action dated March 24, 2005, the Examiner indicated that the recitation after "wherein" in claim 1 was given no patentable weight. However, in view of the amendment to claim 1, the Examiner must consider the recited relationship between the mark and printer 3 of JP 57-6974. It is respectfully submitted that JP '974 does not disclose that the mark of JP '974's bag defines a transport direction to JP '974's printer 3.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of claim 21. In addition, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of dependent claims 22-24 at least because of their dependency from claim 21.

Independent Claim 25 and 30

With respect to independent claim 25, independent claim 21 has been amended to recite that the claimed subject matter is a system comprising a printing device including a print head and a bag having a folded portion disposed on a second surface, which is opposite to a first surface, the print head facing the first surface.

As an initial matter, Applicant respectfully points out to the Examiner that JP '974 merely discloses a bag having top and bottom walls, as well as a flat end, and does not disclose any folded portion.¹ That is, JP '974 does not disclose any structure in a bag in which the walls of the bag are folded over, is used in combination with the printer 3.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of claim 25. In addition, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of dependent claim 30 at least because of its dependency from claim 25.

New Claims

With respect to new claims 31 and 32, Applicant respectfully submits that these claims are patentable at least because JP '974 does not disclose the claimed bag used in a wrapping apparatus for wrapping a good therein. JP '974 does not teach or suggest such that the bag 4 is used in such an apparatus, but instead merely describes printing on the bag.

¹ Compare JP '974 at Fig. 1 with the exemplary embodiment of original Specification shown in Fig. 9, in which the bag 86 has a folded portion 116.

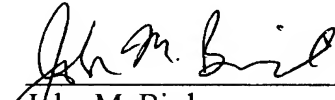
AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.114(c)
U.S. Appln. No. 10/612,968

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



John M. Bird
Registration No. 46,027

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

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